

House Republican Press Release

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**Rep. Boucher Announces \$200,000 Teen Center Grant**



*Thanks Gov. Jodi Rell for Support of Wilton*

State Rep. Toni Boucher, R-143<sup>rd</sup>, Wilton, Norwalk, announced that the state Bond Commission meeting on Friday, August 6, in Hartford is scheduled to give final approval to a \$200,000 state grant to help complete the

Wilton Teen Center.

“Thanks to our new governor, Jodi Rell, for her support of this project and the teens of Wilton,” said Rep. Boucher. “I know there is tough competition for limited state funds, and we owe the governor our gratitude for placing this item on the bond agenda for funding. She is again indicating her concern for our state’s young residents and for our town of Wilton.”

Rep. Boucher said Keith Overland, head of a Wilton parents’ group and chairman of the Governor’s Committee on Physical Fitness, had come to her some months earlier to help find additional funding to deal with a serious problem of rock ledge discovered on the site that jeopardized the project.

“The parents’ group had worked tirelessly for more than four years to build a teen center to help provide alternative activities to substance abuse among teenagers,” said Rep. Boucher. “I then urged our ranking member on the Finance Bonding Subcommittee to seek state funding. Subsequently, the state Office of Policy and Management and Governor Rell agreed the project is deserving of state assistance.”

The teen center building at the town-owned Dana House on Station Road near the railroad station is now being renovated and expanded, and it is expected to open later this year. It is being financed with municipal funds and individual donations. This state grant will provide additional funds needed for the project.

Rep. Boucher added, “Congratulations to the Wilton Teen Center Committee, its generous contributors, its wonderful volunteers and all the students for caring the torch and working so hard to make this center possible.”

Rep. Boucher added, “You have turned a dream into reality, not just for today’s Wilton teens, but for all future generation of Wilton teens.”

